

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY L/NEA:JAROHWER:MJR

APPROVED BY L/NEA:JAROHWER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179157

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, IS

SUBJECT: BUDEIRI PROPERTY CLAIMS

REF: JERUSALEM 930

1. THE TEXT OF TEL AVIV 1606 IS AS FOLLOWS: OFFICIAL OF ISRAEL LAND ADMINISTRATION OFFICE INFORMED EMBASSY PROMPT DECISION NOT MADE IN BUDEIRI CASE BECAUSE FULL DOCUMENTATION REQUESTED FROM BUDEIRI FAMILY IN 1964 NOT RECEIVED UNTIL JULY 1974. DECISION DENYING CLAIM MADE IN AUGUST 1974.

2. OFFICIAL FURTHER STATED DECISION BASED ON PROVISIONS OF ISRAELI LAW CONCERNING ABSENTEE PROPERTY OWNERS WHO WERE RESIDING IN ARAB COUNTRIES IN 1948. BUDEIRI'S FATHER WAS REPORTEDLY IN JORDAN IN 1948 AND RESIDED THERE UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1968. FULL EXPLANATION OF DECISION ALLEGEDLY FURNISHED BUDEIRI'S ATTORNEY IN JERUSALEM SHORTLY AFTER CLAIM WAS DENIED. END TEL AVIV 1606.

3. THE TEXT OF STATE 45429 IS AS FOLLOWS: FRED AND RUTH BUDEIRI, AMERICAN CITIZENS, HAVE BEEN TRYING OFF AND ON FOR FIFTEEN YEARS TO GET COMPENSATION FROM THE ISRAELI CUSTODIAN OF ABSENTEE PROPERTY FOR CERTAIN FAMILY PROPERTIES APPARENTLY EXPROPRIATED BY GOI IN 1948, AND MORE RECENTLY FOR PROPERTIES  
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TAKEN IN EAST JERUSALEM AND THE WEST BANK. TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, PROPERTIES WERE TAKEN AT TIMES WHEN THEY WERE OWNED BY NON-AMERICAN CITIZENS. WE THEREFORE CANNOT FORMALLY ESPOUSE THE BUDEIRIS' CLAIMS ON THEIR MERITS. HOWEVER, LENGTH OF TIME GOI HAS TAKEN TO CONSIDER THE CLAIMS AND GOI FAILURE TO GIVE A REASON WHEN IT DENIED THE CLAIMS IN AUGUST 1974, JUSTIFY OUR INQUIRING AS TO WHY PROCEEDINGS ARE SO LENGTHY AND WHY THE BUDEIRIS RECEIVED NO EXPLANATION FOR DENIAL OF THEIR CLAIMS.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE EMB MAKING APPROPRIATE INQUIRIES ABOUT THIS CASE. BUDEIRIS' LAST ATTORNEY (FROM WHOM THEY HAVE NOT HEARD IN MORE THAN A YEAR) IS ABRAHAM ANGEL, 10 LUNZ ST., JERUSALEM, TEL. 23-32-31. THE CUSTODIAN'S DECISION DENYING THE CLAIMS WAS MADE IN AUGUST 1974 AND REITERATED IN A LETTER OF 9TH JULY 1975 SIGNED BY S. SHAPIRA OF THE CUSTODIAN'S OFFICE. THE REFERENCE NUMBER IN THE JULY LETTER IS 853/592.

5. EMB SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT USG NOT ESPOUSING CLAIMS PER SE -- WHICH WE THINK AT MOMENT WE HAVE NO STANDING TO DO -- BUT RATHER TAKING AN INTEREST IN DIFFICULTIES AMERICAN CITIZENS EXPERIENCING IN HAVING THEIR CLAIMS ADJUDICATED PROMPTLY AND IN RECEIVING RATIONALE FOR ACTIONS TAKEN BY GOI. END OF STATE 45429. KISSINGER

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**Draft Date:** 20 JUL 1976  
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**TAGS:** CASC, PFOR, IS, (BUDEIRI, FRED)  
**To:** JERUSALEM  
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